

from an end of the boss 3 and the rim 5 is shrunk in a large amount and as a result, the free end of the rim 5a is deformed, namely, warped (indicated by a broken line L2) to look like being expanded. Particularly, in a gear having a large tooth width as in the prior art shown in Fig. 3, the above disadvantage is significant...

Please replace page 2, first full paragraph, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In order to prevent the advantage associated with such gear 1, various gears made of a resin are conventionally proposed, which include ribs extending radially between a boss and a rim 5, or an annular rib, and a web 4 formed at a smaller thickness, while ensuring the strength, so that the deformation such as a warpage and a sink is inhibited by regulating the thickness at each of various portions, thereby enhancing the tooth flank accuracy (for example, see Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 9-230657 and the like).--

Please replace the last paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the gear 1 according to the present embodiment, however, groove 8 bisecting each tooth 6 in a widthwise direction is formed along outer peripheral surface of the tooth at substantially widthwise central portion of the tooth (at and in the vicinity of the connection 7 between the web 4 and the rim 5) corresponding to the portion particularly shrunk and deformed in the large amount in the conventional gear shown in Fig. 2. As a result, in the gear 1 according to the present embodiment, the substantially widthwise central portion is formed at a reduced thickness and hence, the amount of widthwise central portion shrink can be decreased, and the sink of the rim 5 can be reduced, thereby enhancing the accuracy of the tooth flank.--

Please replace page 13, first full paragraph, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the gear 1 made of the resin according to the above-described embodiment, the web 4 is formed at the substantially axially central portion of the boss 3. However, the present invention is not limited to this embodiment, and the web 4 may be formed at an axial end of the boss 3, and the boss 3 and the rim 5 may be connected to each other by the web 4. One groove 8 may be defined along the outer surface of each tooth 6 at substantially widthwise central portions of the teeth 5 of the gear 1 made of the resin. If the gear 1 is formed in the above manner, it is